#2/P-AmolfA 4/27/02 C. Paris

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Yutaka MASUDA

Serial No. [NEW]

Filed February 28, 2002

METHOD FOR QUICKLY RETRIEVING APPROXIMATE COLOR OF METALLIC

PAINT COLOR

Attn: Application Branch

Attorney Docket No.2002-0304A

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution and to reduce PTO filing fees, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

ΑI

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein when displaying an approximate-color retrieval result on a computer screen, computer graphics of metallic paint colors are displayed starting with the smallest weighted-angle average color difference so that a person can visually select an approximate color.

Please add the following new claims:

AQ

7. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein when displaying an approximate-color retrieval result on a computer screen, computer graphics of metallic paint colors are displayed starting with the smallest weighted-angle average color difference so that a person can visually select an approximate color.